



# THE GOLDEN GUIDON



December 2018



The facility offers services such as most traditional library resources, high-performance gaming computers, and the only Makerspace in the 50-mile radius of post. (Photo by Bryan Lee, FMWR)

## FHL LIBRARY WINS \$58K FROM THE IMCOM MILLION DOLLAR MAKEOVER CONTEST

By Amy Phillips, Public Affairs

We hit the jackpot – well, at least some of it!

Fort Hunter Liggett submitted an entry to the IMCOM Million Dollar Library Makeover Contest in September and was one of 28 installations awarded funds to enhance existing facilities. FHL's \$58K award will go toward furniture, bookshelves, new carpets, and facility painting.

The library is part of the post's "Cybrary" – library and cyber café - constructed in 1970.

"The Cybrary is one of the most visited locations on Fort Hunter Liggett and we support the community in a wide area of services and activities," said Bryan Lee-Ruiz, the Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (FMWR) marketing director who submitted the contest entry. The facility offers services such as most traditional library resources, high-performance gaming computers, and the only Makerspace in the 50-mile radius of post.

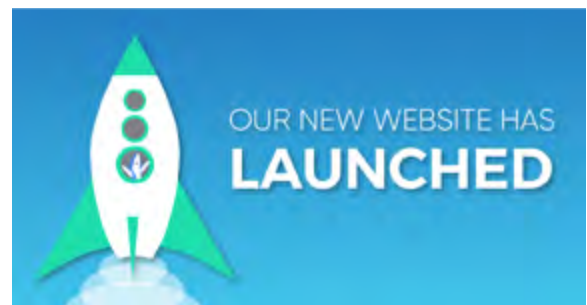
*Continued on page 2*

## COMMANDER'S KEY HIGHLIGHTS

**HOLIDAY SAFETY.** Lights, lights and more lights. Do not overload your outlets and extension cords with too many holiday lights and check for damaged lights. Always keep safety as top priority during the busy holiday season, to include your travel plans and at home.

**HOLIDAY GIFT ETHICS.** The holiday season is here, and that means office parties. These parties sometimes include gift exchanges such as White Elephants or Secret Santas. As long as the gift exchanges are voluntary, they are allowed BUT the Rule (for gifts to and from other government employees) is there is no limit on the value of the gift unless it is to a supervisor or someone in your chain of command who makes more than you. For gifts to supervisors, the maximum value is \$10. Additionally, supervisors may never request gifts or create an appearance of coercion and all participation in any gift exchanges must be voluntary. If supervisors are to be involved, then the gifts must be limited in value to no more than \$10. The Staff Judge Advocate is available to answer any questions regarding gifts: 831-386-2896.

**HIGHER HEADQUARTERS ASSESSMENT.** IMCOM will send a team of evaluators in January to align, synchronize, and integrate multiple protection-focused policies, plans, programs, activities and events across the IMCOM enterprise to improve protection and enable mission readiness.



*It's a work in progress so let the public affairs office know of any glitches or required edits.*

**New URL:** <https://home.army.mil/liggett>





# READINESS



*NMCB 4 Seabees perform a four-man litter carry to evacuate a simulated wounded Seabee during their November Field Training Exercise at Fort Hunter Liggett. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 2nd Class Thadd Dodds)*

By Construction Electrician Second Class Petty Officer Quenniemy Galarpe, U.S. Navy

U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FOUR (NMCB) 4 successfully finished a Field Training Exercise (FTX), a very important portion of the battalion's homeport training cycle, at Fort Hunter Liggett during November.

The FTX is a 24/7 exercise which tests a battalion's capability to perform scheduled tasking in the midst of hazardous situation. The battalion's mission was to provide command, control and communications, general engineering and engineering reconnaissance.

According to UT2 (SCW/EXW/SW) Serina Espinoza, one of the Radio Telephone Operator, "Having the right training when communicating with higher, getting reports and being able to communicate back is very vital and contributes to the overall success of the Field Training Exercise."

The command completed two "jumps" where the entire battalion and equipment moved from an established base to a non-secure area.

This year's FTX tested the battalion's capability to enter inimical locations, build numerous construction projects and defend their camp against enemy attacks. Construction operations are accomplished under continuous hostile environment as aggressors and role players attempt to infiltrate battalion defenses and intrude the battalion's force.

The Seabees completed road-paving projects in Camp Roberts, three SWA Huts and construction of a bridge. Additionally, they also executed mass casualty drills and completed the necessary functions following a chemical, biological and radiological attack.

More than 100 evaluators from Naval Construction Group 1 and Naval Construction Training Center were part of this exercise.

*Cybrary story continued from page 1*

According to Lee, the customer base has increased from about 3K in 2017 to more than 7K in 2018. However, funding to replace aging furniture and equipment has been limited so when the opportunity to enter this contest arose, he jumped on it.

Karen Cole, the Army General Library Program Manager based at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, says the funding was provided by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). According to Cole, the OSD awarded \$1 million to the program in 2015 and a little over \$1 million for this year.

"We annually request funding from OSD, but don't always receive," said Cole.

This year, Cole received 42 requests from U.S. and overseas installations, and awarded 28 projects totaling \$1,088,152.

The enhancement of the Cybrary supports Fort Hunter Liggett's Readiness mission and the Installation Management Command's Service Culture Initiative to provide top-notch service to the military and family members.

"Our Cybrary is one-of-a-kind and can be a good blue print for other installations," said FHL FMWR Director Charlemagne Tertulien.



*The Cybrary is a multi-use facility hosting special events and meetings. (Photo by Bryan Lee, FMWR)*





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## 2018 Garrison Organizational Day

The 2018 FHL Garrison Organizational Day was a day for camaraderie, team building, good food, and informative presentations by the Qualified Recycling Program and guest speaker on World War I and Lt. Gen. Hunter Liggett's important contributions to the war and the modernization of the Army.



All photos on this page by Cindy McIntyre, Public Affairs



Garrison Staff Judge Advocate Lt. Col. Ken Biskner was the guest speaker at the Paso Robles Veterans Day Ceremony which included a flyover by veteran pilots of the Estrella Warbirds Museum, singing by 1st Lt. Wanda Carr with the Garrison HHC and Chaplain (Maj.) Levi Marshall providing the invocation.



### Stay safe for the holidays



- Theft increases during holidays - always be cognizant of your surroundings and keep belongings at close bay; make sure your online shopping is on secured sites.
- Don't be a target - refrain from using bags that identify you as a Soldier or government employee.
- Home safety and security - leave your home with a lived in look by using timers for lights; have trusted neighbors or family check on house if you don't have a house-sitter; temporarily stop mail delivery or have someone check for deliveries; check for fire hazards and batteries in fire and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Social activities - don't talk "shop" or sensitive issues in public and social gatherings.





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

FMWR invites the Fort Hunter Liggett community to the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Mixer at the Hacienda on Dec. 6 at 1700 hrs. Event is open to Military Personnel, Family Members and DoD Civilians. For more information, please call (831) 386-2988.



## Tree Lighting & Holiday Mixer

## Veterans Transition Center Food Drive



Show your support to local veterans by participating in FHL's annual food drive from 19 NOV - 7 DEC. Non-perishable items only. Drop off locations are at the PX, Commissary and Post HQ. POC is 1st Lt. Wanda Carr 831-386-2980.



TURKEY TROT

[Photos](#)



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

[Photos](#)



## NORAD TRACKS SANTA PROGRAM KICKS OFF

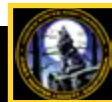
Starting Dec. 24, you can log onto [www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org) to track Santa as the "Santa Cam" streams video of his whereabouts. A 24-hour call center is also available: 1-877-Hi-NORAD (1-877-446-6723) - call or text for updates. More than 1,400 volunteers are expected to join NORAD on Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs to help track Santa's journey. Tracking opportunities are also offered through social media on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.



Check out the latest NPR installments of podcasts on military spouses and our firefighters - <http://www.kcbx.org/programs/journeys-discovery-tom-wilmer>



Augusta Vargas, FHL Librarian and Army spouse, interview with NPR Tom Wilmer.





# SOLDIER & EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

• **USE OR LOSE ANNUAL LEAVE MUST BE USED BY JAN. 5, 2019**

• **CIVILIAN BENEFITS OPEN SEASON NOV. 12 - DEC. 10.** Go to <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/> for health insurance info.

• **KEEP YOUR PERSONNEL RECORDS UP-TO-DATE** to ensure that all tax and other important info are received in a timely manner.

• **MOVING EXPENSES NOW TAXABLE FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.** The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, passed December 2017, eliminated a number of deductions that taxpayers have come to rely on. One of these was the moving expense deduction. The act eliminated the deduction for the tax year 2018 through the tax year 2025. However, the deduction will come back in 2026 unless Congress intervenes to eliminate it permanently. This change does not apply to military personnel, but does apply to DOD civilian employees and contractors. For more info: [https://www.army.mil/article/213976/moving\\_expenses\\_now\\_taxable\\_for\\_civilian\\_employees](https://www.army.mil/article/213976/moving_expenses_now_taxable_for_civilian_employees)

• **DISCOUNTS WITH AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES.** Did you know that most auto insurance companies will give you a discount if you've taken an accident avoidance course? There's many other ways you can get discounts: <https://www.iii.org/article/nine-ways-to-lower-your-auto-insurance-costs>



**THE NACIMIENTO-FERGUSON ROAD BRIDGE IS OPEN.** There is a new 12-foot height limit and speed over the bridge is 10 mph. The low-water crossing is an alternate route, however, will be closed if 4" or more of water is flowing. For current road information, call 831-386-2526. For county roads, call CALTRANS at 805-549-3138. You can also check our Facebook page for current info.

## New Garrison Deputy to the Garrison Commander



**Angelia M. Pinto**

Ms. Angelia M. Pinto hails from Los Angeles and her previous assignment was the deputy garrison manager at Yuma Proving Grounds, Arizona.

She joined the DA civilian corps in November 2009 as the Director of Emergency Services at Yuma Proving Ground and assumed the role of Deputy Garrison Manager in Jun 2014 at Yuma.

Ms. Pinto is a Navy veteran and worked as an Avionics Technician for her first tour, as a Command Criminal Investigator in her second tour. She has 23 years of law enforcement experience.

She is a graduate of the Garrison Pre-Command Course, College of Installation Management, Army Management Staff College, Naval Postgraduate School, and holds a Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Predictive Analytics. Pinto is also a certified public manager.

"I look forward to meeting and bringing new ideas to Team. My expectations for this new assignment include helping to build and cultivate a professional team."

Pinto likes to spend her free time with her daughter, and enjoys running.

Col. Kerry E. Norman,  
Garrison Commander

Amy Phillips, Public Affairs Officer/Editor  
Cindy McIntyre, Public Affairs Specialist

The Golden Guidon is an authorized monthly publication for the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett community. Content in this publication is not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Dept. of the Army, or Fort Hunter Liggett. Submit feedback, story ideas and other information of community interest to the editor at: [amy.phillips.civ@mail.mil](mailto:amy.phillips.civ@mail.mil) or call 831-386-2690.

